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IN THE SPECIFICATION

A *trans*-splicing ribozyme construct specific for EPSPS is created by inserting a cassette composed of oligonucleotides

CATGTTGCCAAATGTTTGAACGATCGGGGAAATTCGAGCTCGAATTGTGATAGCCGC CTGG; (SEQ ID NO:50); and TTTCCAGGCGGCTATCACAATTC

GAGCTCGAATTTCCCCGATCGTTCAAACATTTGGCAA (SEQ ID NO:41) and inserting this cassette into the NcoI to SapI sites in pRib1. This plasmid is identified as pRib5. The 3' end of the EPSPS gene is amplified by PCR using primers

GGCGAATGCGCGCTATCTGGTCGAGGG (SEQ ID NO:42); and GAAGCGGCCGCACCGGTTTAGGCAGGCGTACTCATT (SEQ ID NO:43) and pPMG1 as a template.

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CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner wish to discuss the amendment made herein, the undersigned Attorney would appreciate the opportunity to do so. Thus, the Examiner is hereby authorized to call the undersigned collect at the number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW ENGLAND BIOLABS, INC.

Date: March 25, 2004

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